REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants have carefully considered this application in connection with the Examiner's Action and respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the following remarks.

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-42 in the application. Presently, the Applicants have neither amended, canceled, nor added any other claims. Accordingly, Claims 1-42 are currently pending in the application.

I.   **Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5, 9-11, 13-17, 19, 23-25, 27-29, 31, 33, 37-39 and 41-42 under 35 U.S.C. §103**

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 3, 5, 9-11, 13-17, 19, 23-25, 27-29, 31, 33, 37-39 and 41-42 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,363,444 to Platko, *et al.* ("Platko") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,969,121 to Chan, *et al.* ("Chan"). Each of Claims 1, 15 and 29 includes, in one form or another, an application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) that includes a programmable logic core. Specifically, independent Claims 1 and 29 outwardly require that the ASIC include the programmable logic core, wherein independent Claim 15 claims a method for operating an ASIC including a programmable logic core. Both Platko and Chan fail to teach or suggest this ASIC including a programmable logic core.

11

Platko is directed to a slave processor to slave memory data transfer with master processor writing address to slave memory and providing control input to slave processor and slave memory. (Title). Platko teaches that an ASIC 16, which is delineated by a box, is coupled to a serial EEPROM 26 via a bus between the serial EEPROM 26 and an EEPROM interface 58. The Examiner argues that the EEPROM 26 of Platko is inherently a programmable logic core, and thus Platko teaches or suggests an ASIC containing a programmable logic core. The Examiner's analysis of Platko, however, is inherently flawed. Specifically, the EEPROM 26 of Platko is not part of its ASIC 26, but is a stand-alone structure coupled to the ASIC 26 via the bus between the EEPROM 26 and the EEPROM interface 58, as is illustrated by the EEPROM 26 being outside of the box delineating the boundaries of the ASIC 16. Accordingly, Platko fails to disclose the element that the ASIC contains a programmable logic core. Moreover, Platko fails to suggest such an element because Platko requires that the EEPROM interface 58 be located within the ASIC to accommodate the standalone EEPROM 26. Thus, Platko fails to teach or suggest this element.

Additionally, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to move the EEPROM 26 (which is located outside of the ASIC 16) within the ASIC 16 to form at least a portion thereof, because to do so would make the EEPROM interface 58 of no use. Namely, Platko has taken specific steps to place the EEPROM interface 58 in the ASIC 16 such that the external serial EEPROM 26 could be connected thereto. Removing such an EEPROM interface 58 and including the serial EEPROM 26 within the ASIC 16 would be non-obvious in view of the EEPROM interface 58 requirement. The only person that might take the serial EEPROM 26 of Platko, completely disregard the EEPROM interface 58 teaching, and move it within the ASIC 16, would be a person using the present invention as a blueprint to reconstruct the claimed invention. As the Examiner is well aware, such non-obvious modifications based upon hindsight are not allowed.

Chan also fails to teach or suggest the claimed element that the ASIC contains a programmable logic core. The Examiner is offering Chan for the sole proposition that the programmable logic core has an array of dynamically configurable arithmetic logic units. Notwithstanding the merits of the Examiner's proposition, Chan further fails to teach or suggest the claimed element that the ASIC contains a programmable logic core. A teaching or suggestion of a programmable logic core having an array of dynamically configurable arithmetic logic units is dissimilar to a teaching or suggestion that an ASIC contain the programmable logic core, as currently claimed.

Thus, Platko, individually or in combination with Chan, fails to teach or suggest the invention recited in independent Claims 1, 15 and 29 and their dependent claims, when considered as a whole. Accordingly, these references fail to establish a *prima facie* case of obvious with respect to

13

these claims. Claims 1, 3, 5, 9-11, 13-17, 19, 23-25, 27-29, 31, 33, 37-39 and 41-42 are therefore not obvious in view of Platko and Chan.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the cited references do not support the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5, 9-11, 13-17, 19, 23-25, 27-29, 31, 33, 37-39 and 41-42 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

II.   Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 4, 6-8, 12, 18, 20-22, 26, 32, 34-36 and 40 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgement that these claims are novel, however, at this time the Applicants are unable to make any of the suggested amendments. Specifically, independent Claims 1, 15 and 29 contain novel subject matter without the inclusion of these additional elements. The Applicants, however, reserve the right to make the suggested amendments at a later time if necessary.
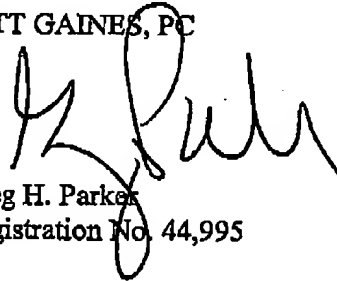
14

III.   Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-42.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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15